



OFFICE OF THE
 JUSTICE ADVISORY COUNCIL, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS
 69 W. WASHINGTON STREET, SUITE 1110
 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602
 TELEPHONE 312-603-1133
 FACSIMILE 312-603-9974

MINUTES

Meeting of the Justice Advisory Council

January 13, 2023

8:30 am-10:00 am

Virtual

Call to Order and Roll Call

The Justice Advisory Council met on 1/13/23 virtually.

Justice Advisory Council Board Member Honorable Justice Hyman called the meeting to order at 8:33am.

JAC Council Board Member Attendance	Present	Absent
Honorable Justice P. Scott Neville	X	
Honorable Justice Michael Hyman	X	
Dia S. Weil	X	
Edith Crigler		X
Lisa S. Stephens	X	
Ed Tivador		X
Dr. Marlon Everett		X
Prof. Samuel Jones		X
Rebecca Janowitz	X	
County Staff Attendance	Present	Absent
President Toni Preckwinkle		X
Avik Das, JAC	X	
Ali Abid, JAC	X	
Wynetta Scales, JAC	X	
Kim Ambrose Davis, JAC	X	
Laura Grossman, JAC	X	
Juandalynn Johnson, JAC	X	
Faith Hong, JAC	X	
Aeria Charles, JAC	X	
Andrew Tonachel, JAC	X	
Shuaverta Miles, JAC	X	
Ryan Gougis, JAC	X	

Members of the Public: Annie McGowan (Civic Federation) Audrey Harding (Commissioner Johnson's office, 1st District) John Houribhane (OCJ) Camela Gardner (OCJ) Kathleen Hughs (Commissioner Daley's office, District 11), Mike Krauser (WBBM), Mark Brown (Family Focus) Tyrone Ward (Commissioner Gordon's office, 5th District) Zach Weber (WBBM), Commissioner Anthony Quezada (8th District), Mateo Uribe-Rios (Commissioner's office), Karletta Kelly.

I. Remarks: On Monday the nation will celebrate the legacy of Dr MLK Jr. His work towards achieving a just and equal society, confronting racism and a flawed justice system is ongoing as these issues still impact our society. The JAC is here to repair the evils that Dr. King decried and we have an opportunity to make tangible progress. Thank you to the staff, board and individuals from the public who engage in this work. The JAC is bending the arc of justice and moving our communities closer to King's just and equal society.

Justice Neville is leaving his role as chair of the JAC Advisory Board as additional responsibilities with the Illinois Supreme Court are taking precedent. Justice Hyman will assume the role of chair. Justice Neville exemplifies the mission of the JAC as he has devoted himself to bringing justice to the people of Illinois. Justice Neville thanks the members of the staff and the board. He will continue to participate to the extent that he is able.

II. Review and approval of Minutes: Sept. 9, 2022 and Nov. 10 2022 minutes: All advisory board members present are in favor of approving the minutes.

III. Council Discussion:

Operations Update - Avik Das

Staffing - New staff member: Whitney Key Towey, Data and Research Director. This is a new role for the JAC which will help us uphold our commitment to evidence informed and community affirmed investments and initiatives. Ryan Gougis is the JAC's new Legislative Coordinator. Having a representative engaging with issues in Springfield will allow the JAC remain informed and increase our capacity to support legislation that aligns with our mission. Wynetta Scales has assumed a new role as Director of Financial Control.

ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) Funded Initiatives

- a. At the Jan. 26, 2023 Cook County Board Meeting, the JAC will present an arrangement funding additional Gun Violence Prevention & Reduction Grant applicants via state funding. We will also continue to build on these ARPA funded investments with our county funded grant initiatives.
- b. Domestic Violence Intervention and Support Services RFQ application review process is ongoing. The initial review of applications will conclude in the coming weeks and program development will take place in the coming months. Programming is scheduled to begin in late Spring/Summer. Advisory Board members with expertise are welcome to engage in program design conversation.
- c. Rental Assistance & Wraparound Services for Returning Residents funding opportunity was just announced. This initiative is a collaboration with the Housing Authority of Cook County. The JAC will be coordinating the wraparound services aspect of the initiative.

An RFQ will be posted on Feb 1 and organizations that offer qualifying reentry services will be able to respond/ apply through March 7, 2023.

Policy Update – *Kristina Kaupa & Ali Abid*

- a. Pretrial Fairness Act - the PFA is under review by the IL Supreme Court based on constitutional challenges from Kankakee. Oral arguments are scheduled for March 2023. While the outcome is uncertain, the county will be focusing on preparing/maintaining readiness for implementation. Additional read throughs and walk throughs will be scheduled in the Spring. Cook County has retained technical assistant JSP to support this.
- b. Rental Assistance and Services for Returning Residents – the JAC is developing a reentry initiative in partnership with HACC for residents coming back from IDOC to Cook County Communities. JAC is planning for a summer launch for services.

Legislative Update – *Ryan Gougis*

- a. Lame duck session has just concluded and Cook County Board Meeting is 1/16/23. The IL assault Weapons Ban HB 5471 passed and was signed into law. Changes to the legislation included higher capacity magazines. Some of these changes are not what advocates pushed for; there could be additional changes. Reproductive Rights HB 4664 passed allowing out of state providers to provide abortions in IL. HB 1064 passed which abolishes life without parole for juveniles and emerging adults (meaning those under 20 will have the ability to go before a parole board for all convictions).

Q – Can you remind us of what the age of a juvenile is – in terms of automatic transfer?

16 year old and older are still automatically transferred for 1st degree murder, aggravated criminal sexual assault, aggravated battery with a firearm.

Communications Update - *Laura Grossman*

- a. Similar to policy preparations, communication related to the PFA is on hold due to Supreme Court ruling to stay procedures.
- b. JAC has focused on discussing the work of Gun Violence Prevention & Reduction Grant service providers (see Sun-Times article on Firebird Community Arts).
- c. Looking forward, we are preparing to adapt and communicate when PFA rulings are made and will be announcing and promoting JAC led American Rescue Plan Act initiatives including Domestic Violence Intervention & Support, Wraparound Services for Returning Residents, and Gun Violence Prevention & Reduction Grant awards.

Safety and Justice Challenge & Community Engagement – *Kim Davis Ambrose*

- a. Racial Equity Cohort – This initiative stems from our participation in MacArthur Foundation Safety and Justice Challenge. The Equity Cohort centers on a cohort of fellows that been impacted by the justice system; the JAC interviewed candidates and 12 fellows are onboard. Jan. 30 is the first time fellows will come together to build community and lay the foundation for the work. The steering committee is continuing to finalize the yearlong Equity Cohort curriculum which will include facilitation skills, restorative justice, equity frameworks etc. 4

CBOS will be involved to mentor fellows throughout the equity cohort. This initiative is the first time we are engaging community on this level, bringing directly impacted individuals into long-term conversations with system representatives.

- b. Safety & Justice Challenge – Cook County will be entering the sustainability phase. We will be planning community presentations on the county criminal justice system and planning for how the JAC will sustain the community engagement framework built under the SJC.

Opportunities for Advisory Board Members & Open discussion

- a. We hope our advisory board members are available between meetings for two way engagement and sharing of information.
- b. JAC plans to host service provider events and regular convenings to develop a cohort/ community of practice. Looking to advisory board members to participate, help shape the agenda etc. Likely Spring and Fall in-person events.
- c. ARPA Initiative (NT764 Rental Assistance and Services for Returning Residents) Project launches in Spring/Summer of next year. Will be working with IL Justice Project, HACC, IDOC, serving an estimated 300 individuals consistently on mandatory supervised release. Developing additional eligibility criteria and referral pathways. Encouraging advisory board input and support – additional information will be shared.
- d. Discussion - *Ideas for engagement and support of returning residents*: safety & transition planning; family involvement and family counseling acknowledging the impacts beyond individuals, particularly on families; recruitment and referral mechanisms / tools to increase access /connection to programs best suited to individuals' needs.

IV. New Business

- a. In March we will have a virtual advisory board meeting which include updates but may leverage a different format. We hope to do some strategic planning to build a more interactive model and look at structure and work of the advisory board.

V. Public Comment

Justice Neville – I will continue to support the work the JAC and the council. The group is left in excellent hands and Justice Hyman will keep him informed.

VI. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was called for by Justice Hyman, at 9:59am.

Next meeting: March 10, 2023 at 8:30am.